

Amendments to the Drawings:

Replacement Figures 1 and 4 are provided in the appendix and replace the original sheets. The changes to the drawings are shown by the two annotated sheets of drawings provided in the appendix.

The drawings have been changed as follows:

In Figure 1, reference number 30 and the arrow have been removed and reference number 148 has been changed to 48.

In Figure 4, reference number 108 has been drawn having a lead line to the first arm.

REMARKS

The specification is amended to include serial numbers corresponding to the attorney docket reference numbers identified in the application. The serial numbers were not available at the time the above-identified patent application was filed. The serial numbers have now been introduced into the application.

Claim 1 is amended to replace the semicolon at the end of the claim with a period. It is submitted that this was a typographical error. In addition, claim 29 has been canceled.

Figures 1 and 4 are amended as described previously.

The outstanding Office Action includes an objection to the drawings. In view of the replacement drawings, it is believed the objections have been rendered moot, and withdrawal of the objections is requested.

The outstanding Office Action includes an objection to the specification on pages 9 and 11-13. In view of the above amendment, it is believed that the grounds for this objection have been rendered moot, and withdrawal of this objection is requested.

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In view of the above amendment to claim 1, it is believed that this amendment has been rendered moot, and withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Claim 29 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,798,511 (*Kaczmarczyk et al.*), U.S. Patent No. 5,232,330 (*Rae et al.*), and U.S. Patent No. 5,982,643 (*MacGregor et al.*). In view of the cancellation of claim 29, this rejection has been rendered moot, and withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Claims 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over *Kaczmarczyk et al.* and *Rae et al.* This rejection is traversed.

Claim 13 is directed at a loader assembly comprising a left boom arm, a right boom arm, and a tower subframe. The tower subframe contains a plurality of hydraulic lines therein extending between the left boom arm and the right boom arm. *Kaczmarczyk et al.* and *Rae et al.*

fail to disclose or suggest a tower subframe containing a plurality of hydraulic lines therein extending between a left boom arm and a right boom arm.

The outstanding Office Action recognizes that *Kaczmarczyk et al.* fail to disclose a tower subframe comprising a plurality of hydraulic lines therein extending between the left boom arm and the right boom arm. It appears that *Rae et al.* is relied upon for teaching "routing hoses through an arm." See paragraph 7 of the outstanding Office Action. It is submitted that *Rae et al.* do not teach routing hoses through a tower subframe extending between a left tower and a right tower. The Examiner's attention is directed to *Rae et al.* at Figures 2 and 3. It is submitted that there is no showing by *Rae et al.* of a tower subframe containing a plurality of hydraulic lines therein extending between a left boom arm and a right boom arm according to the present invention. The Examiner's attention is directed to the above-identified patent application at, for example, Figure 6 showing a tower subframe containing a plurality of hydraulic lines extending between the left boom arm and the right boom arm.

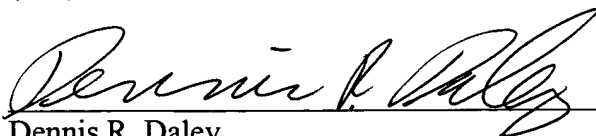
In view of the above comments, the outstanding Office Action fails to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness of claims 13 and 14. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 13 and 14 is requested.

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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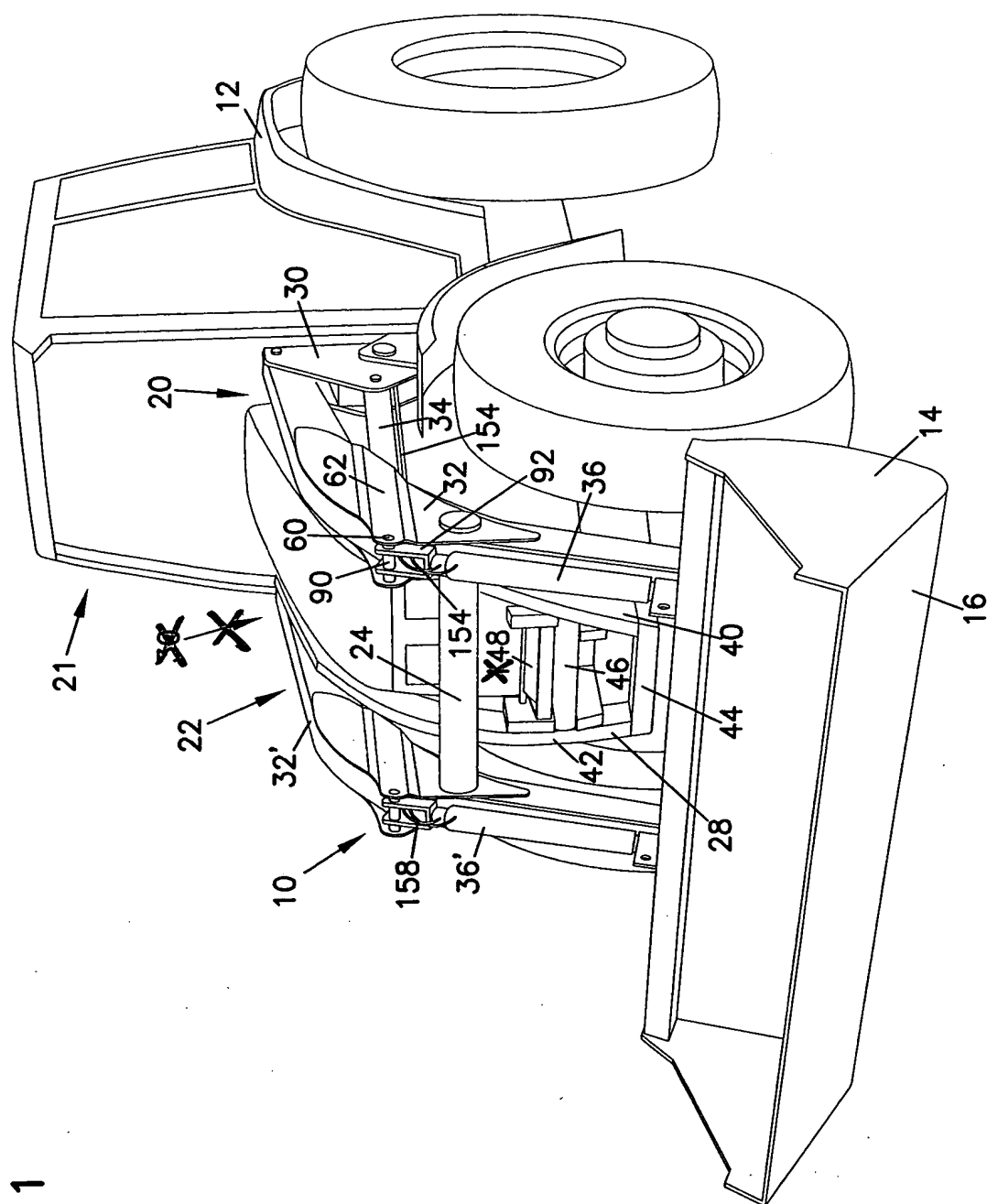


FIG. 1

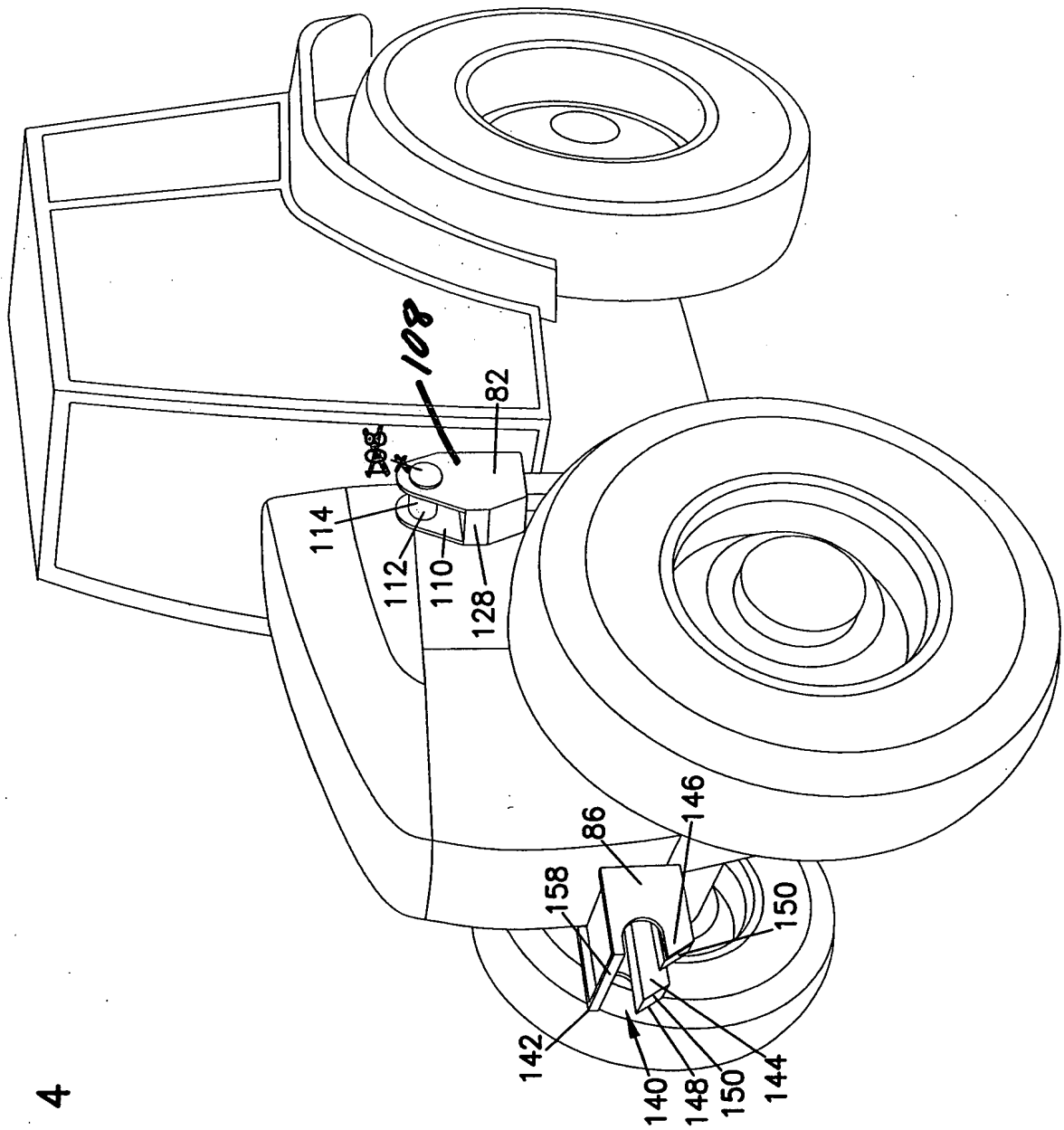


FIG. 4